Chief Hastiin Ch'ilhaajinii Manuelito

This is a biographical work
based on historical documents
with edits, notes and additional images
by Larry W Jones
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This book is dedicated to Ron Grayson Draper
of the Navajo "Dibe lizhini" or Deshchinii "Black Sheep" Clan

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Introduction:
Manuelito is the diminutive form of the name Manuel, “Little Immanuel”. Chief Manuelito or Hastiin Ch’íl Haajiní ("Sir Black Reeds", "Man of the Black Plants Place") (1818–1893) was one of the principal headmen of the Diné people before, during and after the ***Long Walk*** Period. He was born to the Bit'ahnii or ″Folded Arms People Clan″, near the Bears Ears in southeastern Utah about 1818.

Bears Ears - Utah

As many Navajo, he was known by different names depending upon context. He was Ashkii Diyinii ("Holy Boy"), Dahaana Baadaané ("Son-in-Law of Late Texan"), Hastiin Ch'ilhaajinii ("Man of the Black Plants Place") and as Nabááh Jiłt’aa (War Chief, "Warrior Grabbed Enemy") to other Diné, and non-Navajo nicknamed him "Bullet" or "Bullet Hole".

Manuelito was a prominent Navajo leader who rallied his nation against the oppression of the United States military. For several years he led a group of warriors in resisting federal efforts to forcibly remove the Navajo people to Bosque Redondo, New Mexico via the ***Long Walk*** in 1864. After being relocated to Bosque Redondo, Manuelito was among the leaders who signed the 1868 treaty, ending a period of imprisonment in United States government internment camps and establishing a reservation for the Navajo. Manuelito was also an advocate for western education for Navajo children, with his famous quote, “... My grandchildren, education is a ladder. Tell our people to take it."

Navajo Hogan

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Early life:

As mentioned in the Introduction, Manuelito was of the the Bit'ahnii Clan near Bears Ears, Utah where he was born and raised. He married Juanita, a daughter of Narbona (1766–1849) after joining Narbona's Band, and went to live at their camp near the Chuska Mountains. Narbona's reputation as a wealthy and powerful headman impressed Manuelito. He especially admired Narbona's fearless attitude, although Narbona tried to teach him the value of peace as well as war.

(**Note**) The Navajo are made up of 21 Clans. The Bit'ahnii is listed as "Clan Relationship Group 1".

Kinyaa'áanii/Kiyaa'áanii - The Towering House clan (Original Clan)

Dzi ł t'aadi - Near the Mountain clan

'Azee'tsoh dine'é - The Big Medicine People clan

Tązhii dine'é - The Turkey People clan

Bit'ahnii - His Sheaves, Leaf clan, Under His Cover

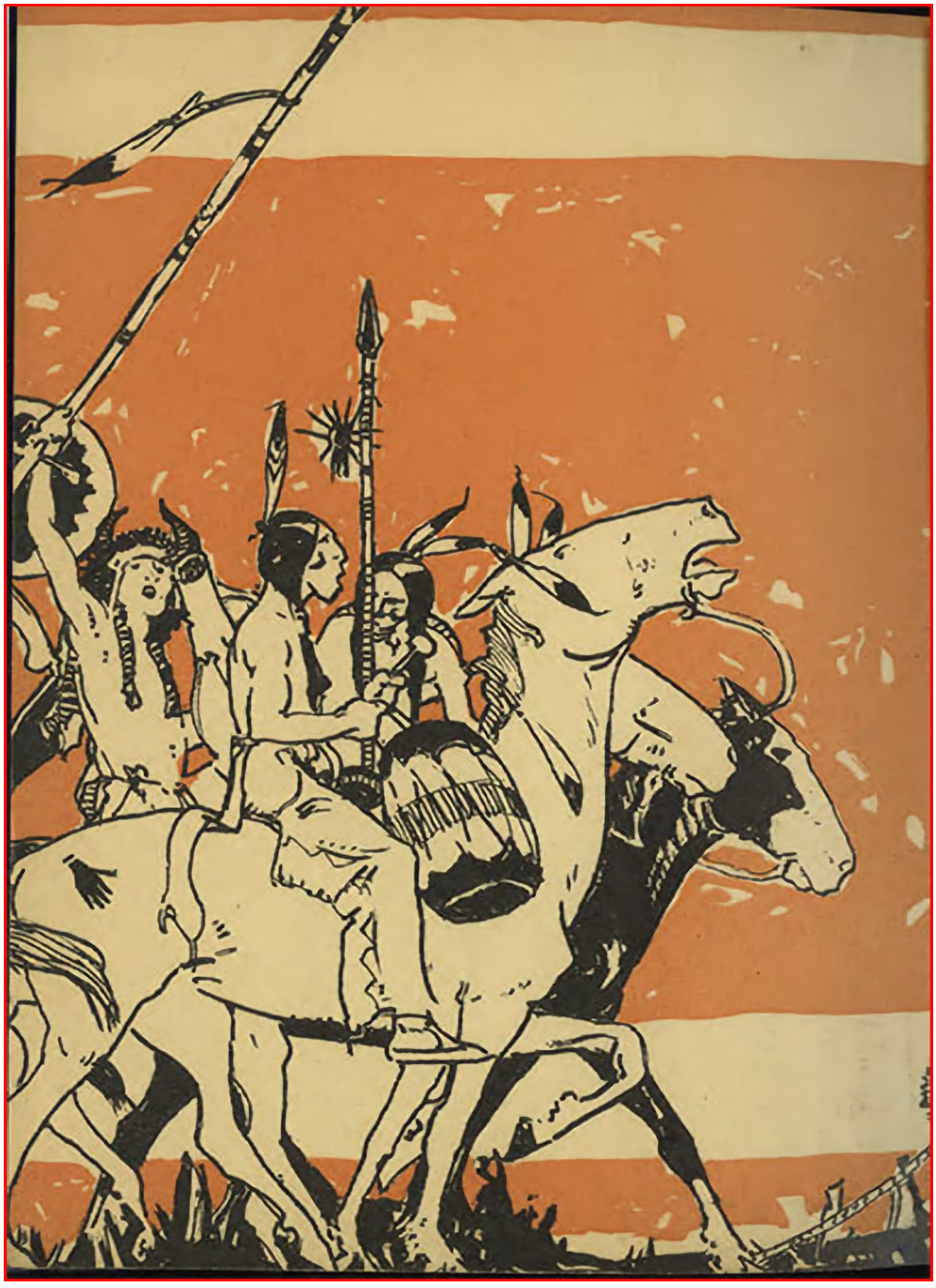
Halgai dine'é - People of the Valley clan (Adopted clan)

Shash dine'é - The Bear People clan (Adopted clan)

Naadąą' dine'é - The Corn People clan (Adopted clan)

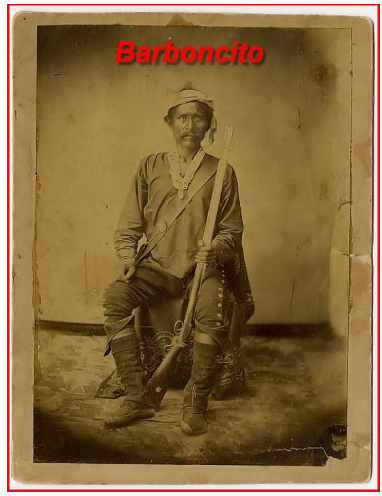
Narbona or Hastiin Narbona (1766 – August 31, 1849) was one of the wealthiest Navajo of his time due to the number of sheep and horses owned by his extended family group. He was not a "chief" of all of the Navajo as the independent minded Navajo had no central authority. However, he was very influential in the tribe due to the status gained from his wealth, personal reputation, and age during the time he negotiated with the white men.

Manuelito spent his days shooting arrows and competing with other young men in countless foot races and wrestling matches, always winning. When in the winter of 1835 that 1000 Mexicans (from New Mexico) were coming to attack the Navajos, Manuelito fought his first in what would be many violent battles. There he earned the name Hashkeh Naabaah ("Angry Warrior").



Navajo Wars:

In the years that followed, Manuelito led one raiding party after another, joining forces with other leaders such as Ganado Mucho and Barboncito to attack not only the hated Mexicans, but also the Hopis in Arizona, the Puebloan peoples of New Mexico, the Utes, the Comanches, and the Apaches. Food supplies, livestock, and women and children were all fair game.



Barboncito

Ganado Mucho

The term Navajo Wars covers at least three distinct periods of conflict in the American West: the Navajo against the Spanish (late 16th century through 1821); the Navajo against the Mexican government (1821 through 1848); and

the Navajo against the United States (after the 1847–48 Mexican–American War). These conflicts ranged from small-scale raiding to large expeditions mounted by governments into territory controlled by the Navajo.

The Navajo Wars also encompass the widespread raiding that took place throughout the period; the Navajo raided other tribes and nearby settlements, who in return raided into Navajo territory, creating a cycle of raiding that perpetuated the conflict.

Spanish Period - Facundo Melgares, the last Spanish governor of New Mexico before independence in 1821, conducted two unsuccessful expeditions against the Navajo, who were attacking the New Mexican settlers. In October 1821 he sued for peace.

Mexican Period - Melgares's successor, Governor José Antonio Vizcarra met Navajo leaders at Paguate on 12 February 1823. His terms essentially stated that the Mexicans would settle the Navajo in pueblos and energetically convert them to the Catholic religion. The Navajo were not interested in either of these proposals. They rejected the treaty and renewed the fight. Six New Mexicans were killed at Socorro in April and eight more at Sabinal in May. On 18 June 1823, Vizcarra led 1,500 troops in a 74-day expedition against the Navajo of western New Mexico. His route took him through the Chuska Mountains to the Hopi mesas in what is now Arizona, then north towards Utah, reaching Oljeto Creek in what is now San Juan County, Utah. Thirty-three Navajo were killed, of whom eight were women, and about 30 were captured. The expedition reached Canyon de Chelly in what is now eastern Arizona. In retaliation for Vizcarra's expedition, the Navajo raided Socorro again, and attacked Tome, Albuquerque, and reached the outskirts of Santa Fe. The 1823 raid marked the start of a long period of raids and counter raids lasting until 1848 as New Mexicans took Navajo captive to work as slaves, and as Navajo raided to recover their people and to obtain livestock.
American Period - The U.S. military assumed nominal control of the southwest from Mexico by 1846. And raids continued between the Navajo and the New Mexican civilians.

1846: Bear Springs Treaty - Following an invitation from a small party of American soldiers under the command of Captain John Reid who journeyed deep into Navajo country, Narbona and other Navajo negotiated a treaty of peace with Colonel Alexander Doniphan on November 21, 1846 at Bear Springs, Ojo del Oso (later the site of Fort Wingate). The treaty was not honored by young Navajo raiders who continued to steal stock from New Mexican villages and herders. Given that the Navajos could not read or write, it is unlikely that they completely understood the Treaty they had signed. It was the first of many treaties signed between the Navajo and the US Government. It was never ratified by the U.S. Senate.

1849: Washington Expedition - On August 16, 1849 the US Army began an expedition into the heart of Navajo country on an organized reconnaissance to impress the Navajo with the might of the U. S. military. They also mapped the terrain and planned forts. Col. John Washington, the military governor of New Mexico at the time, led the expedition. Forces included nearly 1000 infantry (US and New Mexican volunteers), hundreds of horses and mules, a supply train, 55 Pueblo scouts, and four artillery guns. On August 29–30, 1849, Washington's expedition needed water, and began pillaging Navajo cornfields. Mounted Navajo warriors darted back and forth around Washington's troops to push them off. Washington reasoned he could pillage Navajo crops because the Navajo would have to reimburse the U.S. government for the cost of the expedition. Washington still suggested to the Navajo that in spite of the hostile situation, they and the whites could "still be friends if the Navajo came with their chiefs the next day and signed a treaty." This is what they did.

The next day Chief Narbona came to **Canyon de Chelly** for a "talk peace", along with several other headmen. In the treaty the Navajo acknowledged the jurisdiction of the United States and allowed forts and trading posts in Navajo land. The United States, on its part promised "such donations [and] such other liberal and humane measures, as [it] may deem meet and proper". After reaching an accord, a scuffle broke out when a New Mexican thought he saw his stolen horse and tried to claim it from the Navajo. (The Navajo held that the horse had passed through several owners by this time, and rightfully belonged to its Navajo owner). Washington sided with the New Mexican. Since the Navajo owner took his horse and fled the scene, Washington told the New Mexican to pick out any Navajo horse he wanted. The rest of the Navajo also left. At this, Col. Washington ordered his soldiers to fire.

Seven Navajo were killed in the volleys; the rest ran and could not be caught. One of the dying was **Chief Narbona**, who was scalped as he lay dying by a New Mexican souvenir hunter. This massacre prompted the warlike Navajo leaders such as **Manuelito** to gain influence over those who were advocates of peace.

(**Note on death of Narbona**) As the peace council broke up, Sadoval, a young Navajo warrior of some distinction, began riding his horse to and fro, exhorting the 200–300 Navajo warriors in attendance to break the new treaty immediately. At this point, a New Mexican officer claimed that he noticed a horse that belonged to him being ridden by one of the Navajo warriors. Washington, put in the position of backing one of his troopers, demanded that the horse be immediately turned over. The Navajo refused, and the horse and its rider departed. Washington commanded his troops to unlimber their cannon and prepare to fire if the Navajo refused to return the, now absent, property the Americans said was stolen. The Navajo again denied his request, and the

Americans opened fire with cannon as well as rifles. **Narbona** was mortally wounded in the fusillade, and according to eyewitnesses, he was scalped by one of the New Mexico militiamen. He was buried by his sons in the traditional Navajo fashion, bound in a **"death knotted" blanket** and cast into a crevice. Two of his finest horses were slaughtered to ensure he would not walk to the afterlife.

1851–1860 - Col. Edwin Sumner conducted a campaign against the Navajo in 1851. He delegated Maj. Electus Backus to build Fort Defiance in the middle of Diné bikéyah (Navajo territory). Col Sumner entered Canyon de Chelly but Navajo harassment attacks caused him to withdraw. In 1855 a treaty was signed at Laguna Negra by **Manuelito** and Zarcillos Largos for the Navajo and Henry L. Dodge (Indian agent), Governor Merriweather, and General John Garland. Two years later a severe drought hit the Navajo and decimated their livestock and agricultural resources, causing a famine in the winter of 1857-1858. A time of social disruption ensued. Surrounding tribes gradually increased their attacks on the weakened Navajo. The Navajo demanded in 1858 that Fort Defiance stop grazing their livestock on prime Navajo land. Soldiers shot 48 cattle and 8 horses belonging to **Manuelito**. Navajo warriors killed a servant of the commanding officer in retaliation for the killing of their people's livestock without compensation. The United States military demanded the murderer be brought to them, or they would begin a war. The Miles Campaign was sent against them, leaving Fort Defiance on Sept 9.

1860: Second Battle of Fort Defiance - In 1860 the U.S. military, Mexican-Americans, Zunis, and Utes all raided Navajo land. The Navajo killed four soldiers from Fort Defiance in January. On April 29, **Manuelito**, Barboncito and 1,000 Navajo attacked the US army in the Second Battle of Fort Defiance. Meanwhile, others raided sheep near Santa Fe. 400 New Mexicans under Manuel Antonio Chaves formed a militia and raided Navajo land, followed by independent raids by citizens to take captives. In retaliation for the attack on Fort Defiance, Canby's Campaign set out in early October. Over the next several months seven army expeditions killed 23 Navajo and destroyed Navajo stock and crops. In 1861, another treaty was signed at Fort Fauntleroy (later Fort Wingate). Ft. Defiance was decommissioned on February 24. Raiding continued between groups of citizens and Navajo warriors. A dispute arose in August from allegations of cheating at a horse race between Navajo & New Mexican Volunteers forces at Fort Wingate, and Manuel Antonio Chaves of the New Mexico Volunteers ended up ordering his men to fire into the Navajo. This incident incensed the Navajo, and they raided the New Mexicans.

1862: Civil War - The Confederate forces pushed up the Rio Grande into New Mexico in 1862, But they were driven back into Texas by Union forces, of the Colorado Volunteers, assisted by some New Mexican Volunteer militia

units. With the arrival of the California Volunteers under the command of General James H. Carleton, Fort Wingate was re-established at Ojo del Oso (formerly Fauntleroy). The Navajo took advantage of the distraction caused by the Confederate movements to step up their raids. The citizens complained to the government that Navajo and Apaches stole 30,000 sheep in 1862.

1863: Carson's Campaign - In 1863 the New Mexico District Military Governor, General James Henry Carleton, told 18 Navajo chiefs that they must surrender by July 20, 1863, and move to Fort Sumner, at the Bosque Redondo. In July, under orders from Gen. Carleton, Col. Kit Carson began a simultaneous campaign against the Mescelaro Apache and Navajo. In a series of raids and skirmishes Carson's troops began rounding up Navajo and Apache and sending them to Bosque Redondo. Between September 1863 and January 1864, Carson and his men chased the Navajo, killing and capturing a few. Crops were burned, stock was confiscated, hogans were burned. Carson attempted to capture a Navajo stronghold in the Battle of Canyon de Chelly. Although the army missed destroying the entire force, they destroyed much Navajo property.

Kit Carson's Roundup Of Navajo:

This was Carson's first major independent command. Since the Navajo would not go willingly, the army's strategy, developed by Colonel Edward Canby, was to destroy the tribe's economy by seizing or killing their sheep and horses, and confiscating or destroying their crops. Carleton allocated Carson some 736 men of the First New Mexico Volunteer Regiment, organized into six mounted companies and three of infantry. Carleton ordered Carson to "prosecute a vigorous war upon the men of this tribe until it is considered at these Head Quarters that they have been effectually punished for their long continued atrocities.

On July 7, 1863, the Union's Lt. Colonel Christopher "Kit" Carson leaves Santa Fe with his troops, beginning his campaign against the Native Americans of New Mexico and Arizona. A mountain man before the Civil War, Kit Carson was responsible for waging a destructive war against the Navajo that resulted in their removal from the Four Corners area to southeastern New Mexico. Carson was perhaps the most famous trapper and guide in the West.

He traveled with the expeditions of John C. Fremont in the 1840s, leading Fremont through the Great Basin. Fremont's flattering portrayal of Carson made the mountain man a hero when the reports were published and widely read in the east. Later, Carson guided Stephen Watts Kearney to New Mexico during the Mexican-American War. In the 1850s he became the Indian agent for New Mexico, a position he left in 1861 to accept a commission as lieutenant colonel in the 1st New Mexico Volunteers.

Although Carson's unit saw action in the New Mexico battles of 1862, he was most famous for his campaign against Native Americans. Despite his reputation for being sympathetic and accommodating to tribes such as the Mescaleros, Kiowas and Navajo, Carson waged a brutal campaign against the Navajo in 1863. When bands of Navajo refused to accept confinement on reservations, Carson terrorized the Navajo lands—burning crops, destroying villages and slaughtering livestock. Carson rounded up some 8,000 Navajo and marched them across New Mexico for imprisonment on the Bosque Redondo Reservation, over 300 miles from their homes, where they remained for the duration of the war.

On July 14, 1863, Carson marched his regiment west into the heart of Navajo country. Near Ojo del Oso (future site of current Fort Wingate), he found fields of wheat grown by the Indians and appropriated forty thousand pounds of the grain to feed to his livestock.

Upon arriving at Fort Defiance, Carson confiscated an additional one hundred thousand pounds of wheat to feed his livestock. En route, his Ute scouts killed one Navajo and stole twenty sheep. Three independent parties of Ute Indian scouts marauded the Navajo country and captured eleven women and children. Carson recommended that the army allow the Ute Indians to enslave Navajo children, but Carleton, in the first of only two direct orders to Carson during the campaign, vetoed it.

On July 22, 1863, Carson led a reconnaissance to Pueblo Colorado, near present day Cornfield, Arizona, where he built a fort. His force of seventy men and the Ute Indian scouts encountered one small party of Navajo Indians and killed three men. Later, the Ute scouts killed eight more Navajo men. On August 5, 1863, Carson commenced his first of three punitive raids into Navajo country. He marched his detachment, now reinforced to three hundred thirty

three enlisted men and four field and staff officers, south east from Pueblo Colorado about ninety miles toward the Zuni pueblos. Along the way, he came across several Navajo wheat and corn fields and confiscated some crops and destroyed the rest. Carson sent women and children prisoners under guard to Fort Defiance.

Near Zuni, Carson learned that a large number of Navajo Indians were near the Hopi Indian pueblos. On August 8, 1863, he led his force toward the Hopi mesas, more than one hundred miles to the northwest. They captured two Navajo women and three children, along with twenty five head of horses and over a thousand sheep and goats.

On August 16, when leaving Hopi for Pueblo Colorado, Carson's force destroyed fifty acres of Navajo corn. Later they captured one woman and five horses.

Carson completed his first raid by advancing north to Canyon de Chelly on August 20, 1863, from Pueblo Colorado. At Canoncito de los Trigos, he destroyed a ten acre field of corn and fed the corn from another patch to his horses. His force destroyed "large quantities of pumpkins and beans, the latter quite ripe" and carried away "all the grain not previously consumed by them [pack animals] or destroyed by the Command."

During the rest of the first raid, Carson's soldiers and bands of roaming Ute Indians killed several Navajo Indians and destroyed more crops. Before returning to Pueblo Colorado, he observed that there are very few Indians in the Canon [de Chelly], and these of the very poorest. They have no stock and were depending entirely for subsistence on the corn destroyed by my command... the loss of which will cause actual starvation...

Carson led a second raid consisting of ten officers, three hundred ninety five enlisted men, and one hundred ninety two horses from Pueblo Colorado toward the Little Colorado River on September 9, 1863.

He picked up guides from Zuni Pueblo and marched west. His report detailed moving from one brackish spring to another, sending patrols south to the White Mountains, and scouring the valley of the Little Colorado for eighty five miles.

On the return to Pueblo Colorado, Carson destroyed a small village but discovered no Indians. A party searching for lost mules was attacked and, in the fracas, killed one Navajo Indian. Carson refitted at Fort Canby, the rebuilt Fort Defiance, during October, sending out infantry patrols to harass the Indians continuously.

The third and last raid of the winter began on November 15, 1863. In deep snow, Carson and a few other mounted officers along with five companies of dismounted cavalry left Fort Canby for the Hopi country. A detachment "overtook a small party of Navajoes, two of whom he [Sergeant Andres Herrera] killed, wounded two, and captured fifty head of sheep and one horse. En route the party came on a village lately deserted which they destroyed."

Carson pushed west past the Hopi villages to the canyon of the Little Colorado River. He "captured one woman and child, about five hundred head of sheep, and goats, and seventy head of horses, and destroyed another Indian Encampment." With his horses giving out, Carson returned to Fort Canby with, in his mind, little to show for twenty-two days of marching.

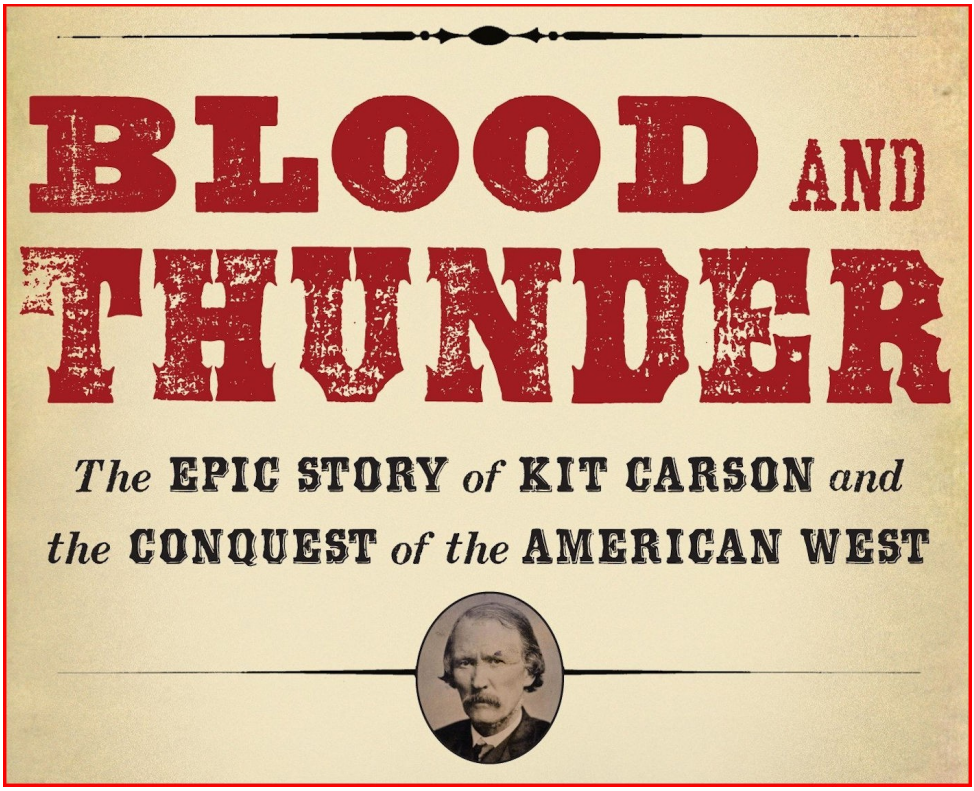
While his troops and horses rested, Carson led a force to recover stolen mules and ordered another officer to scout the country to the west. He reported on the results of his tactics: Judging from the appearance of these captives, the generality of the Navajos are completely destitute. They are almost entirely naked, and had it not been for the unusual growth of the Pinon-berry this year, they must have been without any description of food. This is owing to the destruction of their grain amounting to about two Millions of Pounds by my command…which they depended on for their Winter's Sustenance. The dread of being discovered by my Scouting parties which are continually in the field, prevents them building fires for warmth…

Following only the second direct order from Carleton, on January 6, 1864, Carson led fourteen officers and three hundred seventy five men from Fort Canby to the west entrance of Canon de Chelly. A company under the command of Captain Pfeiffer entered the east entrance and then march west through the defiles to meet the main force.

The tactical results of the sixteen day Canon de Chelly strike were twenty three Navajo Indians killed, thirty four captured, and two hundred Indians who voluntarily surrendered, as well as seizing two hundred head of sheep. Carson sent many Navajo Indians back to their bands to spread the word that he was not there to exterminate the tribe, but they had to surrender and walk more than three hundred miles to Bosque Redondo.

Carson pointed out the strategic accomplishment: We have shown the Indians that no place, however formidable or inaccessible, in their opinion, are they safe from the pursuit of the troops…and have convinced a large portion of them that the struggle on their part is a hopeless one. We have also demonstrated that the intentions of the Government toward them are eminently humane…that the principle is not to destroy but to save them, if they are disposed to be saved.

Carson's first independent command achieved its objective to round up the Navajo Tribe. During the winter and spring of 1864, approximately eight thousand Navajo Indians took the three hundred mile "Long Walk" to Bosque Redondo. Operating more than two hundred miles away from Carleton, Carson received only two direct orders during the campaign from headquarters in Santa Fe as he carried out his mission.



Pre-Long Walk:

1835 *Battle of Washington Pass*, **Manuelito** took part in Narbona's victorious party that defeated a large raiding force led by Captain Blas de Hinojos at what today is called Narbona Pass. He was seventeen when he earned the name Hashkeh Naabaah ("Angry Warrior").

Narbona Pass north of Window Rock, Ariz

1846 One of the signatories of the 22 November 1846 Lava Springs Treaty was **Manuelito**. Alexander Doniphan met with Navajo leaders to pledge a firm and lasting peace in the Lava Springs Treaty.

1849 Manuelito was present when Col. John M. Washington met with his father-in-law Chief Narbona in the Chuska Mountains and Narbona was killed.

Lieutenant Colonel John M. Washington

1853 He and Chief Aguila Negra visited Lt Ransom detachment at the mouth of Chaco River, where Chief Archuleta joined them and created a disturbance. In July, Chief Sarcillos Largos (long earrings) retires and **Manuelito** was elected to speak for the Navajos. This was at the time when a proposed treaty to separate Navajo and Mexican/American grazing lands was under consideration.

1855, July. Zarcillos Largos and **Manuelito** signed The Meriwether Treaty on July 18, 1855 at Laguna Negra with Americans. Manuelito was recognized as 'official chief' and receives a peace medal. In September, Agent Henry L. Dodge brought a delegation of 100 Navajo, headed by Sarcillo Largo, to Santa Fe to talk with the new governor.

On this occasion David Meriwether tried to instill into their minds the conception of obedience to authority. He presented a medal with ribbon to each of six headmen and told them that they would be responsible for their respective bands. Largo was appointed captain over all the others and received more ribbon on his medal as a sign of his superior position.

Some provisions of the Meriwether Treaty were as follows: "Peace, friendship and amity shall forever hereafter exist. . . ;" the Navaho agreed to remain at peace with all Indians, cede all claim to territory except as reserved, to cultivate the soil, and to remove to the reservation within twelve months. The reservation boundary ran from the south bank of the San Juan at the mouth of the Rio de CheIly, up the San Juan to the mouth of Canada del Amarillo, up the Amarillo to the divide between the Colorado river and Rio Grande, along the divide southwest to the head of the main branch of the Zuni river, down the northside to the junction with the Colorado Chiquito, thence north to the beginning point. Lands belonging to the Zuni and Moqui pueblos were exempt, and also fifty square miles around Fort Defiance.

President Franklin Pierce was empowered to grant lands in severalty and to issue patents, with restriction on the rights of alienation, when the individual Indian was considered competent for such responsibility. Other lands could be assigned them in exchange for mineral areas that might be found on the reservation. Necessary highways and railroads could be established as thought necessary.. In return, the Navaho were to receive $10,000 in 1856 and 1857, $6,000 annually from 1858 to 1860, and $4,000 annually from 1861 to 1876.

In 1851, the army established Fort Defiance (called Hell's Hollow by the soldiers) for the express purpose of subduing the Navajo. While the American Indian agent was encouraging peaceful relations with the Navajo, the military was pushing for confrontation. Congress appropriated $30,000 in 1854 for the purpose of negotiating treaties with the Apache, Navajo, and Ute in New Mexico. The Commissioner of Indian Affairs felt that the solution to the Indian "problem" was to extend the reservation concept into New Mexico, Arizona, and Utah.

1856 Major Kendrick at Ft. Defiance spoke to **Manuelito** about stock stolen by some Navajo (one of many times Manuelito filled this role).

1857 He objects to army pastures around Ft. Defiance, but relents.

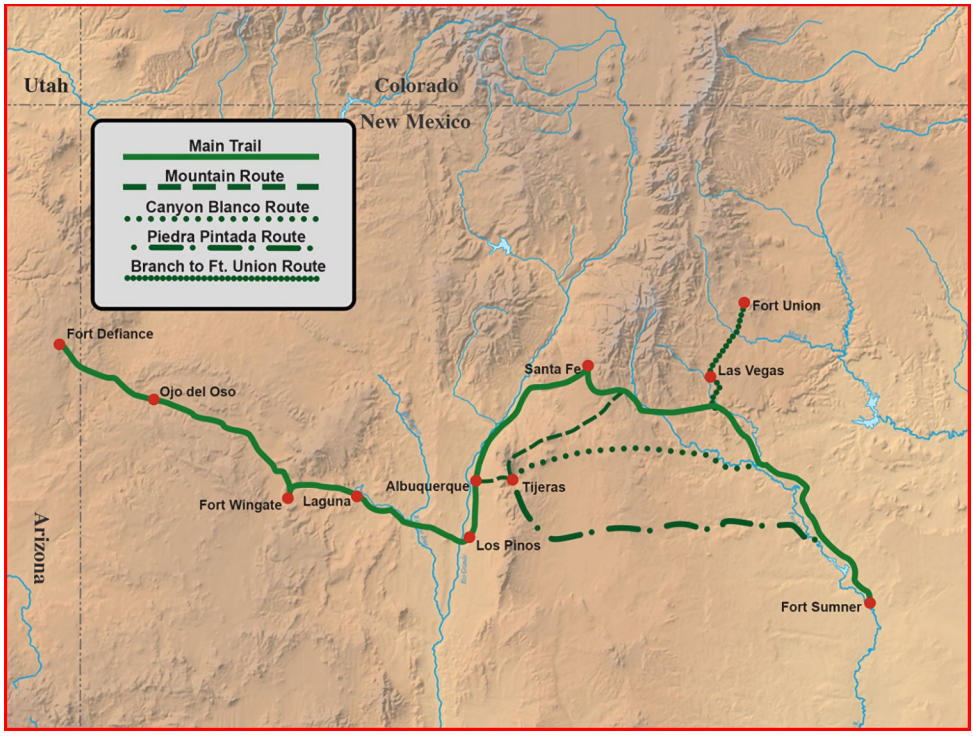
1858 Manuelito told Major Brooks, commander Ft. Defiance that Navajos need the pastures (at the army's Ewell's Hay Camp) around the Fort for their livestock. Manuelito pastured his horses and cattle in the army hay camp. Army troops then slaughtered 48 head of his cattle and other livestock, adding to over 100 animals slain. The Navajo, in response, killed the black slave of an army officer. This began a new series of wars between the Navajo and the Americans.

1858 Major Brooks' servant molested a Navajo woman and, as custom dictated, Navajos killed the offender. After a brief campaign both sides signed a treaty.

1860 July, 50 Mexican/Americans from Cubero, NM raid summer camps. **Manuelito** and Sarcillos Largos set a successful ambush at Whiskey Lake in the Chuska Mountains. 40 of the raiders died.

December 400 volunteer citizens mount a campaign against the Navajos 1861 Major Canby, Commander at Ft Wingate submitted a list with Navajo chiefs and Manuelito was listed as 5th.

The Long Walk:



The Long Walk. This map illustrates the various routes taken at various times during the Navajo Long Walk, between the fall of 1863 and late 1866.

The Long Walk of the Navajo, also called **the Long Walk to Bosque Redondo** was the 1864 deportation and attempted ethnic cleansing of the Navajo people by the United States federal government. Navajos were forced to walk from their land in what is now Arizona to eastern New Mexico. Some 53 different forced marches occurred between August 1864 and the end of 1866. Some anthropologists claim that the "collective trauma of the Long Walk...is critical to contemporary Navajos' sense of identity as a people".

Hostilities escalated between European Americans and Navajos following the scalping of the respected Navajo leader Narbona in 1849. In August 1851, Colonel Edwin Vose Sumner established Fort Defiance for the U.S. government (near present-day Window Rock, Arizona) and Fort Wingate (originally Fort Fauntleroy near Gallup, New Mexico). Prior to the Long Walk, there were a series of treaties signed in 1849, 1858, and 1861.

By 1862, the Union Army had pushed the Confederates down the Rio Grande. The United States government again turned its attention to the Navajos. James H. Carleton was ordered to relieve Canby as the Commander for the New Mexico Military Department in September 1862. Carleton gave the orders to Colonel Christopher "Kit" Carson to proceed to Navajo territory and to receive the Navajo surrender on July 20, 1863. When no Navajos showed up, Carson and another officer entered Navajo territory in an attempt to persuade Navajos to surrender and used a scorched earth policy to starve the Navajo. By early 1864 when thousands of Navajo began surrendering to the Army. Some Navajos refused to surrender to the U.S. Army. These groups scattered to Navajo Mountain, the Grand Canyon, the territory of the Chiricahua Apache, and to parts of Utah.

Carson enlisted neighboring tribes in aiding his campaign to capture as many Navajos as he could. One tribe that proved to be most useful were the Utes. The Utes were very knowledgeable of the lands of the Navajos, and were very familiar with Navajo strongholds as well. Carson launched his full-scale assault on the Navajo population in January 1864. He destroyed everything in his path, eradicating the way of life of the Navajo people. Hogans were burned to the ground, livestock were killed off, and irrigated fields were destroyed. Navajos who surrendered were taken to Fort Canby and those who resisted were murdered. Some Navajos were able to escape Carson's campaign but were soon forced to surrender due to starvation and the freezing temperature of the winter months.

The **"Long Walk"** started in the beginning of spring 1864. Bands of Navajo led by the Army were relocated from their traditional lands in eastern Arizona Territory and western New Mexico Territory to Fort Sumner (in an area called the Bosque Redondo or Hwéeldi by the Navajo) in the Pecos River valley. (Bosque Redondo is Spanish for "round forest"—in New Mexican Spanish a bosque means a river-bottom forest usually containing cottonwood trees.) The march was one that was very difficult and pushed many Navajos to their breaking point, including death. The distance itself was cruel, but the fact that they did not receive any aid from the soldiers was devastating. Not every single person was in prime condition to trek 400 miles. Many began the walk exhausted and malnourished, others were not properly clothed and were not in the least prepared for such a long journey. Neither sympathy nor remorse were given to the Navajos. They were never informed as to where they were

going, why they were being relocated, and how long it would take to get there. One account passed through generations within the Navajos shows the attitude of the U.S. Army as follows:

It was said that those ancestors were on the Long Walk with their daughter, who was pregnant and about to give birth [...] the daughter got tired and weak and couldn't keep up with the others or go further because of her condition. So my ancestors asked the Army to hold up for a while and to let the woman give birth, but the soldiers wouldn't do it. They forced my people to move on, saying that they were getting behind the others. The soldier told the parents that they had to leave their daughters behind. "Your daughter is not going to survive, anyway; sooner or later she is going to die," they said in their own language. "Go ahead," the daughter said to her parents, "things might come out all right with me," But the poor thing was mistaken, my grandparents used to say. Not long after they had moved on, they heard a gunshot from where they had been a short time ago.

At least 200 died during the 18-day, 300-mile trek. Between 8,000 and 9,000 people were settled on an area of 40 square miles, with a peak population of 9,022 by the spring of 1865.

There were as many as 50 groups taking one of seven known routes. They each took a different path but were on the same trail. When returning to the Navajo lands, they reformed their group to become one; this group was ten miles long. Some of these Navajos escaped and hid with Apaches that were running from Gen. Crook on what is known as Cimmaron Mesa southeast of present-day NM Highway 6 and I-40; later they relocated to Alamo Springs northwest of Magdalena, NM and are known as the Alamo Band of the Diné (Navajos). Nelson Anthony Field who had a trading post made a trip to DC to lobby for a reservation for this Band and it was granted. This Band is part Navajo and part Apache.

The campaign to subdue the Navajo by the Army was supplemented by raids by New Mexican and Ute slavers who fell on isolated bands of Navajo, killing the men, taking the women and children captive, and capturing horses and livestock. During the army campaign the Ute scouts attached to the army unit engaged in this activity and left destruction of Navajo infrastructure to the main army unit. Following the surrender of the Navajo, the Utes continued to raid the Navajo as did New Mexican slavers. A large number of slaves were taken and sold throughout the region.

The Long Walk

Bosque Redondo:

Like some internment camps involving several tribes, the Bosque Redondo had serious problems. About 400 Mescalero Apaches were placed there before the Navajos. The Mescaleros and the Navajo had a long tradition of raiding each other; the two tribes had many disputes during their encampment. Furthermore, the initial plan was for around 5,000 people, certainly not 10,000 men, women, and children.

Water and firewood were major issues from the start; the water was brackish and the round grove of trees was quite small. Nature and humans both caused crop failures every year. The corn crop was infested with army worms and failed repeatedly. The Pecos River flooded and washed out the head gates of the irrigation system. In 1865 Navajo began leaving. By 1867 the remaining Navajo refused to plant a crop. Comanches raided them frequently, and they raided the Comanche, once stealing over 1,000 horses.

The non-Indian settlers also suffered from the raiding parties who were trying to feed their starving people on the Bosque Redondo. And there was inept management of what supplies were purchased for the reservation. The army spent as much as $1.5 million a year to feed the Indians. In 1868 the experiment—meant to be the first Indian reservation west of Indian Territory—was abandoned. A memorial site honoring those who were incarcerated at Bosque Redondo is located at Fort Sumner, New Mexico.

Timeline For The Long Walk:

1864, Start of Long Walk period. **Manuelito**'s band are still in Dinetah, perhaps southwest of the Little Colorado River.

1865 Jesus Arviso, Navajo interpreter, was sent by Major Eaton of Ft. Wingate to tell **Manuelito** to come in. Later Herrero Grande and Fecundo were sent from Ft. Sumner to Zuni to tell him to come in. Utes attacked Manuelito's camp.

1866 July. Zunis and Utes attack **Manuelito**'s band south of Sierra Escudilla (near Springerville AZ).

1866 September. **Manuelito** and his band come to Ft. Wingate and go to Bosque Redondo. Ganado Mucho and his band went to the Bosque from Escudilla by another route.

1867, September **Manuelito** leaves to raid Utes, after Comanches and then Utes raid Navajos at Bosque Redondo. He and his band returned.

1868 He is one of the signers of the *Treaty of Bosque Redondo* which ended the Long Walk.

Terms Of the Treaty Of Bosque Redondo:

The treaty was divided into 13 articles. Much of the substance was modeled after the Treaty of Fort Laramie crafted for the Sioux earlier that year, and similar to many other such treaties, Bosque Redondo included a number of so-called civilization or assimilation provisions, designed to incentivize a transition to a landed agricultural existence Provisions of the treaty included the following:

The Navajo would stop all raiding, remain on the reservation in Arizona and New Mexico, and relinquish claims to land outside the reservation. The established reservation consisted of 3,500,000 square miles on the border between New Mexico and Arizona, but excluded some of the best land for farming and grazing.

The government would supply the Navajo with equipment for farming and seeds for planting. Each family would be allotted 160 acres of land. In all, the government agreed to provide 15,000 sheep and goats, and 500 head of cattle.

The government agreed to pay $10 annually for 10 years to families engaged in "farming or mechanical pursuits" to be used by the commissioner Indian Affairs to purchase necessities. Those who did not farm would receive $5 payments.

For ten years the government would provide supplies for the reservation. These were to be provided in the value of $100 for the first year, and $25 annually for the two years thereafter.

The Navajo agreed to send their children aged six to 13 to attend school for a period of ten years, while the government agreed to provide one teacher per 30 students.

Those among the tribe who committed crimes would be subject to federal, rather than tribal law.

The Navajo agreed not to interfere with railroad construction, or to harm any wagon trains or cattle.

IN COMMEMORATION OF THE NAVAJOS
WHO LIVED HERE IN EXILE, 1863-1868.
THE CENTENNIAL RE-ENACTMENT OF THE
SIGNING OF THE TREATY OF PEACE (1 JUNE 1868)
TOOK PLACE ON THIS SPOT.
ERECTED BY THE NAVAJO TRIBE AND THE
PLATEAU SCIENCES SOCIETY, WINDOW ROCK,
ARIZONA, FEBRUARY 1971.
Site of the Treaty Of Bosque Redondo

Harsh living conditions at Bosque Redondo shocked both General William Tecumseh Sherman and Peace Commissioner Samuel Forster Tappan.

Post Long Walk:

Manuelito, as he was known to the white settlers and government forces, was Ashkii Diyinii, Holy Boy, to his own people, later to earn the name Haastin Ch'il Haajiní, or Sir Black Reeds, named for 'the place among the black reeds'. Upon his return, he again lived east of Tohatchi. He became principal chief of the eastern Navajos.

1871 Manuelito appointed Head Chief of the Navajo Tribe after the death of Barboncito.

1872 Manuelito was appointed as head of the new Navajo police force.

1876 Talked to President Grant regarding land problems involving encroachment and potential leases of treaty given lands.

1879 Crops failed and Navajos raided citizens and Zunis. Manuelito and Ganado Mucho arrested 40 men as thieves or witches.

1880 Meets President Hayes in Santa Fe. Also suggests that he be made "Chief of Scouts" to control whiskey traffic in eastern part of reservation.

1882 Navajos and white settlers argue over land that Manuelito says is theirs. He sends his two sons to Carlisle Indian Industrial School. He requests pipes for water and receives a permit to hunt off the reservation with 20 men.

1883 Manuelito's two sons fall sick at Carlisle Indian Industrial School. One son dies at the school, the other returns home, dying soon after his return. Agent reports 4,000 Navajo follow Manuelito in eastern reservation area.

The Carlisle Indian Industrial School, in Pennsylvania operated from 1879 through 1918. Students were shorn of their long hair, and their names were changed. Carlisle meant to turn the school into the ultimate Americanizer". It was a highly structured, quasi-military regime. Corporal punishment was used if students exhibited Native behavior. It was the model for 26 Bureau of Indian Affairs boarding schools in 15 states and territories. More than 10,000 Native American children from 140 tribes attended Carlisle. Tribes with the largest number of students included the Lakota, Ojibwe, Cherokee, Apache, Cheyenne, Alaska Native, and Iroquois Seneca and Oneida.

1884 Henry Chee Dodge succeeds Manuelito as Head Chief of the Navajo Tribe.

1886 Manuelito and Mariano were sent out to recruit Navajo Scouts for the Army.

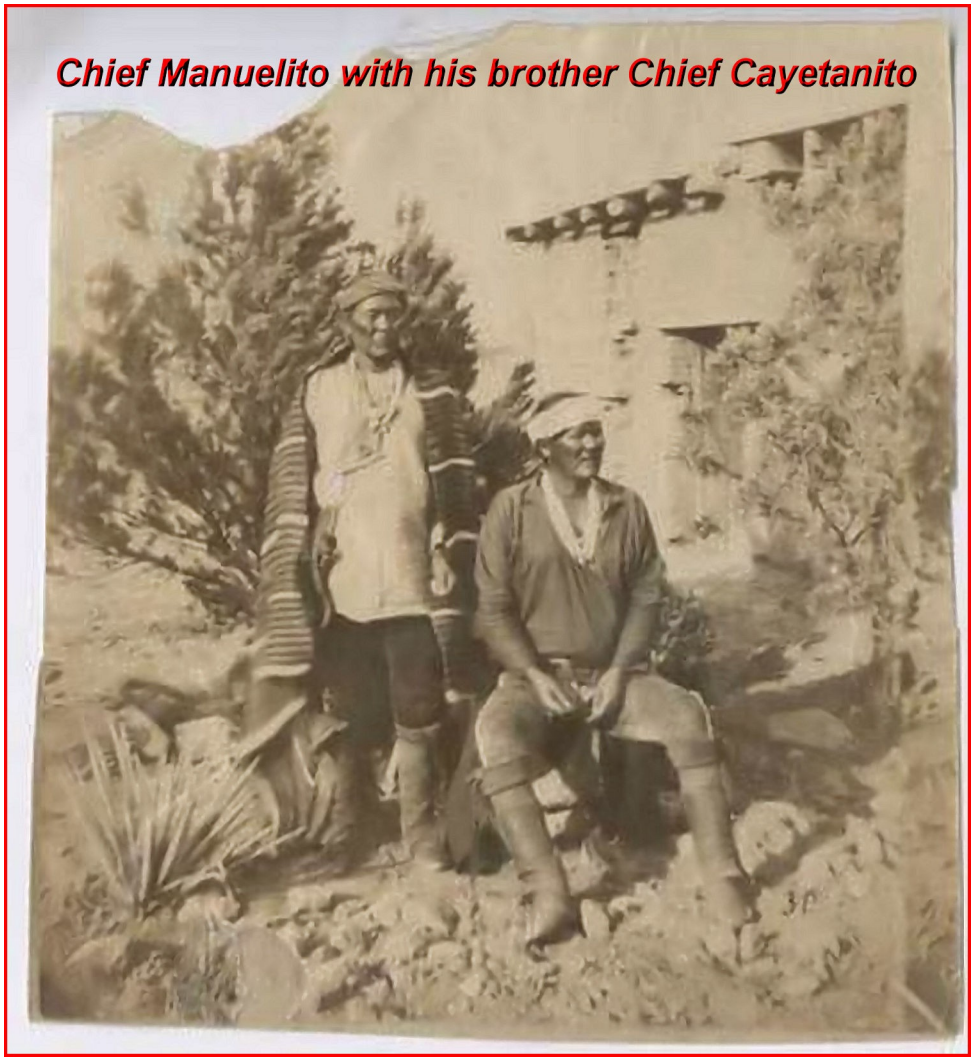
1891 Army pays call upon him and Tom Torlino, and he gives advice about improving flow of springs.

1892 Is called to Ft. Wingate to discuss certain renegade Navajos who were raiding stock belonging to non-Navajos.

1893 Manuelito dies from measles complicated by pneumonia. He is buried in Coyote Canyon, New Mexico, near Mexican Springs and Alamogordo, in a secret burial site among the weeds.

Juanita: Manuelito married one of his many Mexican slaves, Juanita (1845–1910). Juanita's Navajo name was Asdzáá Tl'ógí, ("Weaver Woman"). Her biographer and great-great-great granddaughter Jennifer Nez Denetdale describes taking a trip to Los Angeles to view the dress. Cassandra Manuelito-Kerkvliet is his great-great granddaughter.

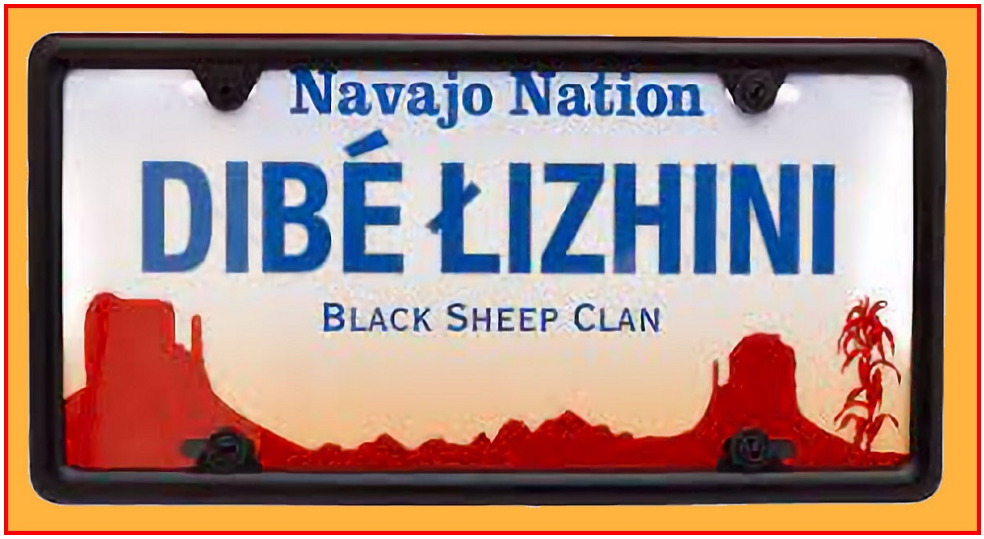
Manuelito Segundo Son of Chief Manuelito & Juanita
Harold Carey



END – Chief Manuelito - NAVAJO

RON GRAYSON DRAPER

By inspiring the author to research the life and history of famous Navajo Chief Manuelito, this publication is respectfully dedicated to Mr. Ron Grayson Draper from the Navajo Nation at Chinle, in the Four Corners area of Arizona. Ron is a family member of the "Dibe lizhini" or Deshchinii "Black Sheep" Clan. Many thanks Ron, for your inspiration and the interesting history of your father as a "Code Talker" in the Pacific.


Navajo Nation
DIBÉ ŁIZHINI
BLACK SHEEP CLAN

About the Author

Larry W Jones is a songwriter, having penned over 7,700 song lyrics. Published in 22 volumes of island themed, country, cowboy, western and bluegrass songs. The entire assemblage is the world's largest collection of lyrics written by an individual songwriter.

As a wrangler on the "Great American Horse Drive", at age 68, he assisted in driving 800 half-wild horses 62 miles in two days, from Winter pasture grounds in far NW Colorado to the Big Gulch Ranch outside of Craig Colorado.

His book, "The Oldest Greenhorn", chronicles the adventures and perils in earning the "Gate-to-Gate" trophy belt buckle the hard way.

Other books published by Larry W Jones:

A Squirrel Named Julie and The Fox Ridge Fox
The Painting Of A Dream
The Boy With Green Thumbs and The Wild Tree Man
Red Cloud – Chief Of the Sioux
Spotted Tail – The Orphan Negotiator
Little Crow – The Fur Trapper's Patron
Chief Gall – The Strategist
Crazy Horse – The Vision Quest Warrior
Sitting Bull - The Powder River Power
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Two Strike – The Lakota Club Fighter
Chief American Horse – The Oglala Councilor
Chief Dull Knife – The Sharp-Witted Cheyenne
Chief Joseph – Retreat From Grande Ronde
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Kids Animal Pals Volume 1
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Bird Kids Volume 1
Bird Kids Volume 2
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The Jungle Book – Tiger! Tiger!

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Songs Of The Seas
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Cynthia Ann Parker – Comanche Bride
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The Goodnight-Loving Trail – A Chuckwagon Saga
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Hunga Tonga – The Volcano!
Otaheite 1769 – Log Of Captain Cook
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First Nations – Eskimo
Pontiac and the Ottawa Wars
Last Of The Wampanoag
Osceola And The Seminole Sorrow
Squanto – The Patuxet Pilgrim
Wreck Of the Charles Eaton
Courthouses Of Texas
Mother Goose Rhymes – The Complete Collection
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Log Of Captain Bligh – Mutiny and Survival
Four Voyages Of Christopher Columbus
Expedition Of Cabeza de Vaca
Expedition Of Hernando de Soto
Expedition Of Coronado
Billy the Grizzly
Kidnapped – The Inheritance
Animal Friends Of the Timberlands
Chief Red Jacket – The Orator
Chief Black Hawk – Sauk Clan Leader
The Pied Piper Of Hamelin
How Polynesia Became French
Texas Poisonous Snakes
Rocky Mountain Jim From Muggins Gulch
Buffalo Bill When The West Was Wild

Other books published by Larry W Jones:

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Calamity Jane – Woman Of the Western Plains
How To Tie Knots

All his publications are available on Lulu.com